

# WORKPLACE

## CONNECTION

Season's  
GreetingsSeason's  
Greetings

" ENRICHING LIVES "

November / December 2004

Vol. 14, Issue 5

### Antonovich Announces New Program

**S**upervisor Michael D. Antonovich, in announcing a new program to reduce diesel emissions, said "the adverse health effects of high exposure to diesel exhaust places our children at risk."

"We must be aggressive in our efforts to clean our air and reduce cancer-causing emissions," said Supervisor Antonovich, a Board member of the South Coast Air Quality Management District.

The new program targets a common practice in the industry of leaving truck engines idling for extended periods of time to provide power, heating and air conditioning for their cabs. "Funding is being provided by the Environmental Protection Agency and the SCAQMD to install plug-in power modules in 20 spaces at a truck stop along Interstate 5," said the Supervisor.

"With this new plug-in power program, truckers will be able to have the same conveniences and necessities but in a cleaner way," he said.

The bottom line is that truckers will be able to have onboard power to meet their needs while still operating in a much cleaner and quieter environment.



Supervisor Zev Yaroslavsky, third from right, presents the "Clean Air/Rideshare Fair Day" proclamation to David Sutton of Metro during a recent Board meeting. Joining in the presentation are, from left, Workplace Programs employees Craig Hirakawa and Dorothy Mosley, CAO David E. Janssen and Victoria P. Lane, director of Workplace Programs.

### County Sponsors Civic Center Clean Air/Rideshare Fair, Segway a Hit

**S**aying that "nearly 2,000 out of 4,000 County employees in the Civic Center area participate in some form of ridesharing," Chief Administrative Officer David E. Janssen said the "County is doing its part to reduce air pollution."

He spoke at the annual Civic Center "Clean Air/Rideshare Fair," which attracted more than 500 employees, who had a close-up look at various energy efficient vehicles on display in

the Mall of the Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration.

"In 1976 the Los Angeles basin had 102 Stage 1 smog alerts and seven Stage 2 alerts," said CAO Janssen. "Last year there was one Stage 1 alert and no Stage 2 warnings."

Approximately 1,946 employees now working in the Civic Center use light rail, car and vanpooling, commuter buses and other clean air options to get to work. And some work a compressed work week.

"Clean air is everybody's business," added Janssen.

Furnell Chatman, anchor-reporter for KNBC-TV, served as master of ceremony. Pat Smith, regional development manager of Earth Share of California, one of five Board-approved fund distribution agencies for the charitable giving program, also gave remarks.

Rick Jager, senior public relations officer for METRO, John W. Adkins, Jr., fleet administrator, County Department of Public Works, and William del Valle, Southern California general manager of Flexcar, also spoke.



Supervisor Michael D. Antonovich, second from left, announces the new diesel emissions program along with, from left, Deborah Jordan, director of air programs, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency; Kristina Grigorian, student at Horace Mann School, Lynda Burlison, nurse coordinator in the Glendale School District, and Paul Bobbosh, EPA.

(Continued on page 4)

## Pasadena Earns Most "Bike Friendly" City Designation

Saying that Pasadena adopted an "ambitious bicycle master plan," the Los Angeles County Bicycle Coalition named the city as the "most bike friendly" in the entire County.

The city was recognized for adding 50 miles of bikeways, creating a bicycle safety brochure, installing "Share the Road" signs and planning for a bike transit center at the Memorial Park Metro Gold Line Station, said Ann Erdman of Pasadena.

"Bicycle use is healthy and an environmentally friendly commute," said Richard Dilluvio, transportation planner for the city. "The General Plan has as one of its guiding principles that Pasadena will be a city where people can circulate without cars," he said.

The new bicycle routes were decided upon after the city received input from bicycle advocates at several public meetings. Several of the bikeways are equipped with route and "Share the Road" signs.

In January, the Pasadena City Council created a bicycle network that is designed to increase access to high schools, colleges, Metro Gold Line stations and employment and shopping centers.

Free copies of the bicycle safety brochures and route maps may be obtained by calling (626) 744-7254.

## Dodger Winner



Gerri Kariya, left, Deputy Chief Administrative Officer, and Gina Villegas, Office of Workplace Programs, congratulate Betty Gobst, center, of the CAO's Office, on winning a recent opportunity drawing that benefited the County's charitable giving program. Ms. Gobst won two tickets to the Dodgers Oct. 9 playoff game against the St. Louis Cardinals, a game the team won in the bottom of the ninth inning with two outs.

## SCAQMD Opens Hydrogen Fueling Station

One of the first hydrogen fueling stations accessible to the public was opened recently at the headquarters of the South Coast Air Quality Management District in Diamond Bar.

It is one of 13 stations scheduled for opening in the Southern California region to demonstrate hydrogen fueling and power production using an internal combustion engine generator. The electricity produced will be used at SCAQMD during periods of peak

demand. Hydrogen fuel-powered vehicles from Honda, Toyota and DaimlerChrysler were used in the fleet demonstration.

"This station is a major link in California's hydrogen highway," said Cynthia Verdugo-Peralta, SCAQMD Governing Board Member. "It's an important step in our vision to ensure that every Californian has access to fuel produced from clean, stable and renewable sources along our major transportation corridors," she said.

The SCAQMD relies on advanced technologies and clean-burning fuels to achieve air quality standards in the region. These alternative vehicles do not emit smog-forming pollutants. The district's program will provide real world experience and data to further refine the technologies for public use.

DaimlerChrysler is a leader in fuel cell propulsion, partnering with the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Department of Energy and Fuel Cell Partnership.



A hydrogen-fueled vehicle



Taking a look at one of the new vehicles are, from left, Cynthia Verdugo-Peralta, SCAQMD Board member, Terry Tamminen, Secretary of the California Environmental Protection Agency, and Dean Kato, Toyota Motor Sales.

## Construction Now Underway on Eastside Line

**S**upervisor Gloria Molina, community leaders and Metro board members broke ground in early summer on the Metro Gold Line Eastside extension, scheduled for completion in late 2009.

The extension, six miles of light rail service, will provide easier access to the Arts District, Boyle Heights and East Los Angeles, and include twin tunnels under Boyle Heights and a park and ride lot at the Atlantic Station.

Metro expects the Eastside line to consist of eight stations, which will be operational from 4:30 a.m. to 12:30 a.m., and offer a capacity for 22,000 daily boardings.

A community field office for the project is open at 1505 East First Street. It provides up-to-date information for local residents and businesses on construction progress.

In addition, Metro Art has commissioned Los Angeles-based muralists to create large scale murals on the construction staging walls beginning early next year.



*Supervisor Gloria Molina joins local schoolchildren from the Union-Pacific area of unincorporated East Los Angeles to celebrate the grand opening of the YWCA Children's Center.*

## Nearly \$12K Raised for APLA By County

**C**ounty employees have raised nearly \$12,000 for the 2004 AIDS Walk Los Angeles fundraiser held on Sunday, Oct. 17, in Los Angeles and West Hollywood.

The 20th annual fundraising walkathon benefits the effort to change the course of the epidemic. AIDS Project Los Angeles is the leading sponsor of the event. Proceeds are distributed among HIV/AIDS service organizations across the County.

Online donations and pledges by County employees raised the total amount donated to \$11,472. "We all have a stake in this fight against HIV/AIDS," said David E. Janssen, chief administrative officer.

## ETC Spotlight

**L**isa Bickems, Employee Transportation Coordinator (ETC) for the Auditor-Controller Department, knows that it is "never good to assume."

She approaches her duties with the understanding that the "message of clean air may not be heard the first time" it is given. "I make certain that employees in my department receive double doses of the clean air message."

Ridesharing is marketed in the Auditor-Controller's newsletter, through e-mail blasts and the monthly Clean-Air Bulletins posted on high-visibility boards throughout the department.

"I give triple doses of the ways that employees can contribute to cleaner air," she said. "You just can't assume that everyone hears you each time you talk about ridesharing so you have to repeat the message often."

Ms. Bickems has personal experience to back up her assertion.

A devout and die-hard drive alone



**Lisa Bickems**

employee is now a devoted ridesharer. How did it happen?

"He refused to give ridesharing a chance and for years drove alone. Then one day his car needed repairs and his wife needed her car. But he still had to get to work," she explained.

While pondering his dilemma, the

words of the ETC came back...."rideshare."

"He picked up the telephone and dialed 1-800-COMMUTE. There was a bus approximately one-half block from his home and it would take him all the way to downtown Los Angeles," said Ms. Bickems.

The bus let him off only steps from his worksite. He was very happy.

"Now that former drive alone employee is an advocate for cleaner air and a confirmed ridesharer," she noted.

"The air is cleaner," said Ms. Bickems, "and his driving stress is in the garage with his car."

She is busy but takes the time to respond to employee ridesharing questions. "There are times when it seems as if there are not enough hours in the day to do the clean-air job along with other duties. But something as important as the clean air message has to be told so I find time to tell it," she added.



CAO David E. Janssen, left, participated in the Clean Air/Rideshare Fair along with, from left, Furnell Chatman, KNBC-TV, Pat Smith, Earth Share of California, William del Valle, FlexCar, John W. Adkins, Jr., fleet administrator, County Department of Public Works, and Rick Jager of METRO.



Janssen rides the Segway.



Furnell Chatman tries out the Segway.



Emcee Furnell Chatman, center, receives a rideshare gift bag from CAO Janssen and Victoria P. Lane.



CAO Janssen, left, John Musella and Gail LeGros, Supervisor Don Knabe's office, watch fair participants.

## Clean Air/Rideshare . . .

(Continued from page 1)

Pink's Hot Dogs, the famous Hollywood eatery, set up shop on the Mall and served more than 400 customers. A portion of the proceeds from the hot dogs will benefit the County's 2004 charitable giving campaign.

Joining the Board of Supervisors and CAO as sponsors of the October Clean Air/Rideshare Fair were METRO, South Coast Air Quality Management District, Department of Public Works, Foothill Transit, Segway, VPSI Vanpools, Enterprise Rideshare, Montebello Transit, Metrolink and Flexcar.

Supervisor Zev Yaroslavsky introduced a Board motion proclaiming October 21 as "Clean Air/Rideshare Day" in the County.



Supervisor Yvonne B. Burke presented County scrolls to high school students at a recent Board of Supervisors meeting. The students were commended for completing a YouthBuild training program, offered by the Watts Labor Community Action Committee.

## Charitable Giving Campaign Seeks Payroll Deductions

**T**he County's 2004 Charitable Giving Campaign is now underway through December with a special emphasis on payroll deduction.

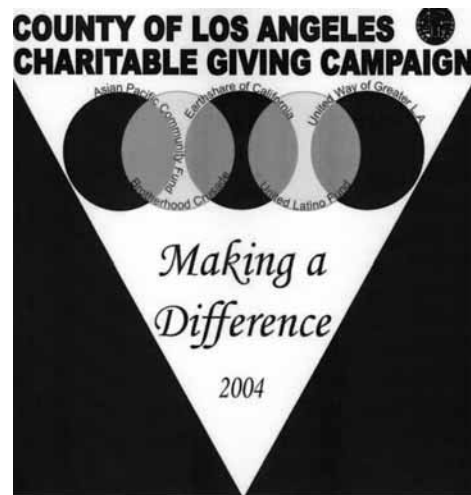
Employees may voluntarily deduct as little as \$5 per month and donate the money to one of five, Board approved fund distribution agencies such as United Way, Brotherhood Crusade, Asian Pacific Community Fund, Earth Share of California and the United Latino Fund.

"Making A Difference" is the theme of the annual campaign, which was launched at an Executive breakfast held at the Music Center.

For more information, please contact your departmental coordinator or call Natalia Jimenez, program manager, at (213) 974-2466.



CAO Janssen presents gift to Dennis Conte, Sheriff's Dept., who enrolled 595 employees in payroll deduction.



Russ Guiney, interim director, Parks and Recreation Department, reviews the campaign brochure with a County employee.



Col. Joseph Smith, Military and Veterans Affairs, and Dr. Lakshmanan Sathyavagiswaran attend the breakfast.



Natalia Jimenez, left, and Victoria P. Lane, right, present a gift certificate to Heather Sherry, a lucky winner of an opportunity drawing.

### Focus on Agencies:

## United Way Initiative Helps County Youth

**I**n 2001, United Way launched "Tomorrow's Leaders," a new outreach to young people, that changed the life of Elizana, an energetic 12-year-old who attends school in East Los Angeles.

"I didn't know how to use a computer," she said, recalling her beginnings with the program. Within 10 weeks I learned "how to open Windows, save a Word program to a floppy disc and safely navigate through the Internet."

She is proud that her academic standing soared as a result of Tomorrow's Leaders. "My grades have been going up a lot. I no longer get D's and C's on my report card because I replaced them with A's and B's."

The program started Elizana on a new path of knowledge, offering weekly tutoring in critical subjects such as English and math. She participated in

activities that focused on creating and maintaining good relationships with peers and adults.

Her family also has been touched by the United Way initiative since she now helps them use the computer.

Elizana is aware of the importance of good grades and fully expects the higher grades to enhance college opportunities. She would like to study medicine at UCLA or Harvard. "Tomorrow's Leaders also helps me to explore career options," she said.

United Way offers the program at 20 youth organizations throughout the County, touching some 4,000 students in 2003. It targets youngsters between the ages of seven and 17 in three key areas of personal development—education, social leadership and computer literacy.

Tomorrow's Leaders is an outgrowth of a recent United Way study, which



Student participants in the Tomorrow's Leaders program work on computer skills.

showed that 38 percent of high school students in the County either drop out or fail to graduate in four years.

## DPW Introduces Solar-Powered Bus Stops

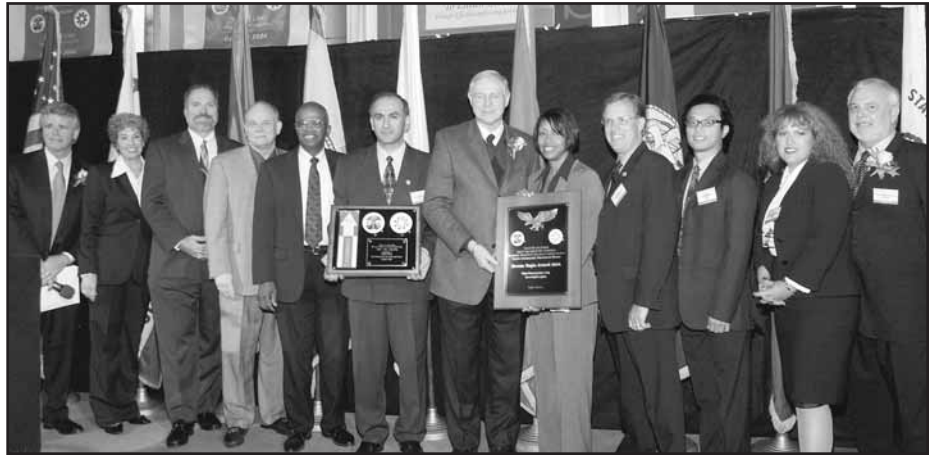
**B**us riders are celebrating an innovative solar design for bus shelters that is now in use by the County's Department of Public Works.

"Solar lights with special sensors are activated at sunset to increase safety for bus patrons," according to DPW officials. Approximately 14,100 daily bus riders also are protected from the sun and inclement weather.

Solar-powered bus stops, shelters and light poles are being installed in various areas of the County as part of a new program initiated by the department in cooperation with the Metropolitan Transportation Authority, Antelope Valley, Foothill and Santa Clarita Transit companies.

"The Solar-Powered Bus Stop Amenities Program recently won the Bronze Eagle award and was recognized as a Top Ten finalist at the 2004 Quality and Productivity awards ceremony, held in October at the Music Center," DPW officials noted proudly.

More than 150 of the bus stop shelters have been installed in East Los



Members of the Department of Public Works receive the Bronze Eagle Award during the recent Quality and Productivity awards ceremony at the Music Center.

Angeles, Athens, Lennox and Willowbrook, and 70 solar-powered bus stops in the unincorporated areas of the Antelope Valley and Santa Clarita. An estimated 223 solar light poles have been placed at bus stops Countywide along with benches and trash receptacles.

The shelters utilize the latest solar technology, providing power to bus stop areas and individual electronic message boards. DPW plans to install an additional 450 shelters to meet the increasing demand.



A solar-powered bus stop.



**County of Los Angeles  
2004 Charitable Giving Campaign  
2005 Entertainment Book Order Form  
"MAKING A DIFFERENCE"**



Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**To:**  
Natalia Jimenez  
Chief Administrative Office  
Workplace Programs  
Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration, B-1  
500 West Temple Street  
Los Angeles, CA 90012  
Phone: (213) 974-2466 or Fax (213) 633-4694

DEPARTMENT: \_\_\_\_\_

Coordinator: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_

Please complete and sign the attached form indicating what merchandise you would like to purchase or to take on consignment. Checks are made payable to: **LAC Volunteer Fund**

ITEM	Selling Price	QTY	TOTAL DUE
Inland Empire/Riverside/Palm Springs	\$20.00		
Los Angeles	\$20.00		
Orange County	\$35.00		
San Diego	\$40.00		
San Fernando	\$20.00		
San Gabriel Valley	\$21.00		
Santa Barbara/Ventura	\$20.00		
GRAND TOTAL			

\* Full payment for consignment orders must be paid by **December 15, 2004**.

All orders must be picked up at the Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration, B-1, unless alternate arrangements are made. Please contact Natalie Jimenez at (213) 974-2466 or Gina Villegas at (213) 974-1171 to arrange for pick-up.

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

CHECKS PAYABLE TO: **LAC VOLUNTEER FUND**

# Metrolink Targets Riders in Holiday Toy Express Drive

**M**etrolink riders are encouraged to support the annual Holiday Toy Express drive, which helps to make the holidays brighter for needy children and their families.

A once-a-year dazzling display of twinkling lights, tinsel and decorations, the Holiday Toy Express is a 450-ton Metrolink train that stops at 45 stations in six counties in Southern California on weekend evenings through Dec. 21. The special train will not roll in the rain.

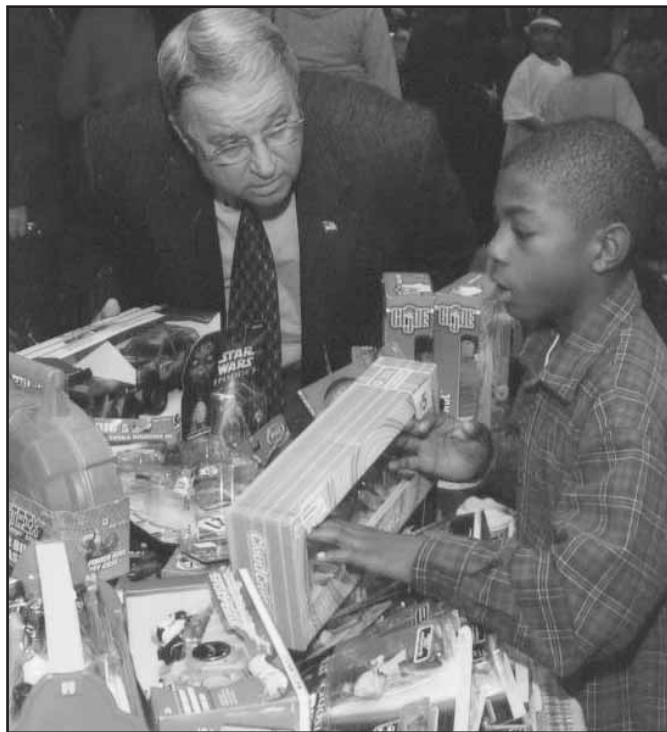
It includes a live, children-friendly musical show featuring Santa Claus trading puns with an oversized plush toy named Santa Hog, who playfully interacts with a reindeer, snowman and elves. After a sing-along, cast members interact with the audience.

Last year visitors were served hot chocolate, cider and cookies provided by local businesses, fire departments, Metrolink station cities and regional transportation agencies. At several stops real snow was brought in for the children.

"The toy drive is an ideal way for Metrolink commuters to enjoy the holiday season and make life a little brighter for children, who might otherwise be left out of the holiday cheer," said officials.

"We partner with the Spark of Love toy drive to collect new, unwrapped toys and sporting equipment for children in Los Angeles, Riverside, San Bernardino, Ventura and Orange Counties," according to one Metrolink official.

Spark of Love is operated by an advisory council of Southern California firefighters and staff from KABC-TV, which is a Disney-owned station.



Supervisor Don Knabe receives a detailed explanation of various toys from a local child during a toy give-away for children in need.

Interested persons may obtain information on the Holiday Toy Express by calling 1-800-371-LINK(5465) or visiting the website at HYPERLINK "<http://www.metrolinktrains.com>" [www.metrolinktrains.com](http://www.metrolinktrains.com) to check on the schedule.

## 2004 Holiday Toy Express Dates and Times of Operation

<b>Sunday November 28, 2004</b>	
El Monte	5:15 P.M.
Baldwin Park	6:10 P.M.
Covina	6:55 P.M.
Montclair	8:00 P.M.
Claremont	8:30 P.M.
<b>Saturday December 4, 2004</b>	
Rancho Cucamonga	5:05 P.M.
Fontana	5:45 P.M.
San Bernardino	6:30 P.M.
Rialto	7:15 P.M.
Upland	8:15 P.M.
<b>Sunday December 5, 2004</b>	
Montalvo	5:00 p.m.
Oxnard	6:00 p.m.
Camarillo	6:45 p.m.
Moorpark	7:45 p.m.
<b>Saturday December 11, 2004</b>	
Simi Valley	5:15 p.m.
Chatsworth	6:30 p.m.
Northridge	7:10 p.m.
Van Nuys	7:45 p.m.
Glendale	8:35 p.m.
<b>Sunday December 12, 2004</b>	
Lancaster	5:45 p.m.
Vincent Grace/Acton	7:00 p.m.
Via Princessa	8:15 p.m.
<b>Saturday December 18, 2004</b>	
San Clemente North	5:45 p.m.
Oceanside	7:05 p.m.
San Clemente Pier	7:55 p.m.
<b>Sunday December 19, 2004</b>	
Tustin	5:25 p.m.
San Juan Capistrano	6:50 p.m.
Laguna Niguel/Mission Viejo	7:40 p.m.
Irvine	8:30 p.m.

**2004 CHARITABLE GIVING CAMPAIGN**  
**"MAKING A DIFFERENCE"**



**HO! HO! HO!**  
**TIME TO PURCHASE YOUR**  
**HOLIDAY BEANIES**  
**AND**  
**FESTIVE DOORKNOB HANGERS**





**DOORKNOB HANGERS**  
**\$6.00 EACH**

**COUPLE W/MINI ANIMALS \$5.00 EACH**



**CONTACT YOUR**  
**CHARITABLE GIVING COORDINATOR**

**OR THE**  
**OFFICE OF WORKPLACE PROGRAMS**  
**ROOM B-1, KENNETH HAHN**  
**HALL OF ADMINISTRATION**

**GINA VILLEGAS**  
**(213) 974-1171**  
**OR**  
**NATALIE JIMENEZ**  
**(213) 974-2466**



**HOLIDAY ASSORTMENT W/BELLS**  
**\$5.00 EACH**

## County Employees Enjoy L.A. Opera's Presentation of "Carmen"

**C**ounty department heads, employees and their families enjoyed a complimentary night at the opera, courtesy of the L.A. Opera.

They were treated to a dazzling production of "Carmen," featuring Georges Bizet's highly regarded score. The production which centers around the world's most famous femme fatale, proved to be a great introduction to opera for many employees.



## "Treats For Troops" Drive Continues

**C**ounty employees are asked once again to support the brave men and women, who are serving in the U.S. military by donating to the "Treats for Troops" campaign now underway.

The Phase II effort is designed to collect "goodies from home" that will be sent by Operation Gratitude during the Thanksgiving, Christmas and holiday

season to "someone in uniform living in hazardous and austere conditions."

Collection boxes have been placed in various County buildings, including on the second, third and seventh floors of the Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration in downtown Los Angeles.

Suggested donated items include ready-to-eat tuna or chicken salad kits, Girl Scout cookies, powdered hot and

cold beverages, trail mix, nuts, disposable cameras, handheld games, stationary, holiday greeting cards, pens, knit hats and gloves, lip balm and moist towelettes.

No canned goods or wrapped gifts will be accepted due to regulations.

For more information, please contact John Mina at (213) 738-2352.



### Members of the Board

**Don Knabe**  
Chairman  
Fourth District

**Gloria Molina**  
First District

**Zev Yaroslavsky**  
Third District

**Yvonne B. Burke**  
Second District

**Michael D. Antonovich**  
Fifth District

**David E. Janssen**  
Chief Administrative Officer

**Victoria Pipkin-Lane**  
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